

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 TEGUCI 04115 252137Z

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ACTION SCSE-00

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 ISO-00 DHA-02 L-03 H-02 PPTE-00 (ISO) W

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R 251910Z AUG 76

FM AMEMBASSY TEGUCIGALPA

TO AMEMBASSY SAN SALVADOR

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 4298

UNCLAS TEGUCIGALPA 4115

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: CASC, HO (HOPKINS, PHILIP E.)

SUBJ: DENIAL OF ENTRY INTO EL SALVADOR OF U.S. CITIZEN

1. U.S. CITIZEN PHILIP E. HOPKINS INFORMED CONSOFF THAT HE WAS DENIED ENTRY MONDAY INTO EL SALVADOR BECAUSE HE IS A LEGAL RESIDENT OF HONDURAS. HOPKINS IS A MISSIONARY AND FORMER RESIDENT OF EL SALVADOR WHO SOUGHT TO RETURN FOR VISIT TO SUPERVISE PACKING OF HHE FOR SHIPMENT TO TEGUCIGALPA WHERE HE NOW RESIDES. HE STATED HE WAS TOLD BY SALVAOREAN IMMIGRATION OFFICIAL THAT TOURIST CARD AND PERMISSION TO ENTER EL SALVADOR WERE DENIED TO ALL RESIDENTS OF HONDURAS THE SAME AS TO HONDURAN CITIZENS.
 2. TO THIS EMBASSY'S KNOWLEDGE THIS IS FIRST INSTANCE OF SUCH DENIAL TO A U.S. CITIZEN. NORMALLY USCS INCLUDING RESIDENTS OF HONDURAS CAN APPLY FOR AND OBTAIN TOURIST CARDS AT EL AMATILLO BORDER STATION, AND PROCEED INTO EL SALVADOR. ALTHOUGH HONDURAN RESIDENTS USUALLY MUST REPLACE THEIR HONDURAN LICENSE PLATES WITH NEUTRAL ONES.
 3. REQUEST EMBASSY DETERMINE WHETHER MR. HOPKINS DENIAL BASED ON NEW GOES POLICY AND WHAT, IF ANY, STEPS HE COULD TAKE TO BE ABLE TO RETURN TO EL SALVADOR TEMPORARILY. PLEASE ADVISE WHETHER U.S. CITIZENS RESIDENT IN HONDURAS ARE LIKELY TO FACE SIMILAR PROBLEMS IN FUTURE, AND IF SO WHAT ACTION YOU CONSIDER APPROPRIATE.
- BARTCH

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NNN

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